

Message Text

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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, PFOR, CY

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SUBJECTUS/EC PRESIDENCY DIALOGUE: CYPRUS--APRIL 18
FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING

1. BRITISH EMBASSY HAS DISCUSSED WITH DEPARTMENT FCO IDEA
OF CIRCULATING TO EC-9, IN PREPARATION FOR APRIL 18 FOREIGN
MINISTERS MEETING, JOINT ASSESSMENT (VIENNA 2754 EXDIS-
NOTAL) OF CYPRUS INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS PREPARED IN VIENNA BY

US AND UK "OBSERVERS". FCO IS ALSO CONSIDERING PROPOSING THAT EC-9 AGREE ON APRIL 18 TO COLLECTIVE EXPRESSION OF THEIR VIEW TO ALL PARTIES TO CYPRUS DISPUTE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: NINE ARE SATISFIED WITH MODEST BUT REAL PROGRESS SO FAR AND URGE ALL CONCERNED TO SEIZE ON POSITIVE ASPECTS, HOWEVER SMALL AND UNSATISFYING, OF THE PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD IN THE VIENNA TALKS. NINE WOULD ALSO URGE ALL TO CONTINUE TO REMAIN IN CONTACT AND NEGOTIATE PATIENTLY IN A CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER.

2. DEPTOFF TOLD UK EMBOFF THAT WE WOULD PREFER THAT ASSESSMENT NOT BE CIRCULATED BUT THAT IF DONE IT NOT BE LABELLED AS US VIEW. WE POINTED OUT THAT ASSESSMENT WAS DRAFTED BEFORE VIENNA TALKS CONCLUDED, AND THAT WIDE CIRCULATION OF SOME OF POINTS CONCERNING VARIOUS PARTIES' ATTITUDES WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL. WE SAID THAT US WAS

REVIEWING POSSIBLE FUTURE STEPS WE MIGHT TAKE TO HELP PREPARE FOR MID-MAY RESUMPTION IN NICOSIA, BUT WE WERE UNCERTAIN WHETHER GENERAL STATEMENT BY EC MEMBER STATES ALONG ABOVE LINES WOULD BE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL AT THIS JUNCTURE.

3. ADDRESSEES MAY USE FOLLOWING SUMMARY DEPARTMENT ASSESSMENT OF MARCH 31-APRIL 7 CYPRUS TALKS IN VIENNA IN RESPONDING TO FOREIGN MINISTRY OR OTHER REQUESTS FOR US VIEWS, SUCH AS THAT REPORTED ROME 5913 (NOTAL):

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OVER THE RESULTS OF THIS SIXTH ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS. POTENTIAL FOR REAL PROGRESS NOW EXISTS, THOUGH LITTLE CAN BE EXPECTED BEFORE JUNE.

IN OUR VIEW THE NEGOTIATIONS DID HAVE BOTH POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE ASPECTS.
ON THE POSITIVE SIDE:

--BOTH PARTIES DID TABLE CONCRETE PROPOSALS: THE GREEK CYPRIOTS PUT FORWARD A MAP EMBODYING A PROPOSAL ON TERRITORY; THE TURKS TABLED A CONSTITUTIONAL MEMORANDUM OUTLINING THEIR PROPOSAL FOR A FUTURE GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE.
--NO PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS WERE ENCOUNTERED--UNLIKE PAST NEGOTIATIONS. THE PARTIES DISCUSSED THE MAJOR ISSUES ON A PARALLEL BASIS, AND THE DISCUSSIONS LED TO SOME CLARIFICATION AND PROBING OF POSITIONS.
--THIS ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS LASTED MORE THAN TWICE AS LONG AS PREVIOUS ROUNDS, AND THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED TO ANOTHER MEETING IN MID-MAY IN NICOSIA.

--THE PARTIES KEPT IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH A US OBSERVER WHO WAS IN VIENNA FOR THE TALKS AND BOTH SIDES CONTINUE TO VIEW US INVOLVEMENT AS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN FUTURE CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS. WE HAVE REMAINED EVEN-HANDED IN OUR APPROACH AND OUR ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN CLOSELY COORDINATED WITH, AND APPRECIATED BY, UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM.

ON THE NEGATIVE SIDE:

--THE TWO PROPOSALS WERE DEFICIENT IN MANY RESPECTS. THE GREEK TERRITORIAL PROPOSAL CLEARLY DOES NOT GIVE THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS A SELF-CONTAINED AND VIABLE ZONE; THE TURKISH CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL PROVIDES FOR CENTRAL GOVERNMENT SO LIMITED AS TO RENDER IT NEARLY IMPOTENT. THE GAP IN SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS REMAINS WIDE.

--ALTHOUGH THE NEGOTIATORS DID TALK FOR SEVEN DAYS, THE ATMOSPHERE WAS NOT A POSITIVE ONE AND THE NEGOTIATORS DID
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NOT HAVE AUTHORITY OR THE DESIRE TO MAKE REALISTIC

CONCESSIONS.

4. U.S. VIEWS ON AEGEAN CONTINUE TO BE THOSE SET FORTH
STATE 65276.
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